Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 07124 01 OF 02 171926Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
ACDA-12 TRSE-00 HA-05 EB-08 OMB-01 /092 W
----------048613 171957Z /47
R 171912Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7783
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 07124

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, GW, CZ
SUBJECT: HUSAK VISIT TO FRG

REFS: A) BONN 6874; B) BONN 6293

BEGIN SUMMARY: HUSAK'S VISIT WAS A CATCH-UP AFFAIR DESIGNED TO BREAK THE POLITICAL ICE OF FRG-CZECH RELATIONS. SOME SUCCESS WAS ACHIEVED THOUGH THE VISIT WAS HARDLY A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN TO WHAT EXTENT IT WILL STIMULATE FRG-CZECH TIES, WHICH REMAIN BEHIND THOSE BONN ENJOYS WITH OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. END SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 07124 01 OF 02 171926Z

1. FOREIGN OFFICE AND CHANCELLERY SOURCES INTERPRET HUSAK'S APRIL 10 TO 13 VISIT HERE, HIS FIRST IN A NATO COUNTRY, AS AN EFFORT TO END THE RELATIVE POLITICAL ISOLATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA VIS-A-VIS THE WEST. HUSAK WAS PERCEIVED TO BE CONCERNED THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN HIS WARSAW PACT ALLIES AND THE WEST HAD MOVED ON, LEAVING CZECHOSLOVAKIA AT THE STARTING BLOCKS. THE

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

SPD WAS SIMILARLY INTERESTED IN BROADENING RELATIONS
AND INCLUDING PRAGUE IN THE DETENTE PROCESS, AS WAS THE
FRG, ALBEIT WITH LESS ENTHUSIASM. OUR CONTACTS BELIEVE
HUSAK'S VISIT WENT RELATIVELY WELL THOUGH IT MET NEITHER
CZECH NOR SPD EXPECTATIONS.

2. THE VISIT PRODUCED CONCRETE RESULTS IN SEVERAL AREAS
WHERE THE CZECHS DREW EVEN WITH THEIR EASTERN EUROPEAN
NEIGHBORS. CZECHOSLOVAKIA BECAME THE LAST WARSAW PACT
MEMBER TO SIGN A FRAMEWORK CULTURAL ACCORD WITH BONN.
AGREEMENT WAS ALSO REACHED (REF A) ON UPGRADING THE
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION FROM DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
TO MINISTER LEVEL. (CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS THE ONLY
EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRY WHOSE ECONOMIC COMMISSION WITH
THE FRG WAS AT LESS THAN STATE SECRETARY LEVEL). AT
CZECH INSISTENCE, THE GERMANS ALSO AGREED TO ANNUAL
FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL CONSULTATIONS. HERE, TOO, IT
WAS A MATTER OF CATCHING UP SINCE GENSCHER ALREADY
CONSULTS ANNUALLY WITH OTHER WARSAW PACT FOREIGN
MINISTERS. LITTLE PROGRESS WAS MADE ON THE FRG PLAN
TO APPOINT COMMISSIONERS TO DEAL WITH BORDER INCIDENTS;
NOR WAS THE DOUBLE TAXATION AGREEMENT INITIALED (REF B).
TALKS ON BOTH ISSUES WILL CONTINUE WITH THE GERMANS
BEING CONSIDERABLY MORE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE TAXATION
AGREEMENT, WHERE THE REMAINING PROBLEMS ARE SAID TO BE
TECHNICAL, THAN THEY ARE ON THEIR PROPOSAL FOR BORDER
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 07124 01 OF 02 171926Z

COMMISSIONERS.

3. THE FRG WAS NOTICEABLY BUSINESSLIKE IN ITS HANDLING
OF HUSAK, WHO, RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY, IS SEEN BY MANY HERE
AS THE HARD LINE, MOSCOW CONFIDENT WHO ENDED THE PRAGUE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 07124 02 OF 02 171926Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
ACDA-12 TRSE-00 HA-05 EB-08 OMB-01 /092 W
----------048614 171956Z /47
R 171912Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7784
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 07124

SPRING. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SCHMIDT, SCHEEL AND GENSCHER ALL RAISED THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, NOTING THAT THE FRG WOULD BE WATCHING THE SITUATION CLOSELY. HUSAK IS SAID TO HAVE REACTED "FLEXIBLY AND NON-AGRESSIVELY." PRESS COVERAGE OF THE VISIT WAS RATHER UNFRIENDLY, DESPITE THE BEST EFFORTS OF THE SPD (REF B). IN ADDITION, A CDU OFFICIAL HAS TOLD US THAT PARTY CHAIRMAN KOHL SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED DECLINING TO MEET WITH HUSAK AND DID SO ONLY OUT OF CONCERN THAT TURNING DOWN THE CZECH LEADER WOULD HAVE MEANT NO MEETING WITH BREZHNEV.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

4. THE FOREIGN OFFICE FEELS THAT EFFORTS TO BROADEN ECONOMIC TIES REMAIN CONSTRAINED BY CZECH RELUCTANCE TO DEAL WITH A MARKET ECONOMY. WE ARE TOLD THAT SPD LEADERS, WHO HAD HOPED FOR MAJOR PROGRESS IN THE ECONOMIC AREA, WERE SIMILARLY FRUSTRATED BY CZECH INTRANSIGENCE. ACCORDING TO A FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCE, DEPUTY PREMIER HULA ACKNOWLEDGED THE PROBLEM AND INDICATED A READINESS TO BE MORE FLEXIBLE IN ECONOMIC DEALINGS WITH THE WEST.

5. WE HAVE VIRTUALLY NO INFORMATION ON SCHMIDT'S PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH HUSAK THOUGH WE ARE TOLD THE CHANCELLOR (AS NOTED IN PARA 3) RAISED THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE. ONE SOURCE SAID SCHMIDT'S PRESENTATION WAS

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

QUITE DETAILED, NAMING SPECIFIC CASES INVOLVING CZECH DISSIDENTS. WE UNDERSTAND SCHMIDT ALSO DISCUSSED DETENTE AND THAT THE CHANCELLOR URGED HUSAK AND HIS ALLIES TO PLAY A GREATER ROLE IN THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE AND INCREASE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

6. COMMENT: THERE ARE NO SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN THE FRG-CZECH RELATIONSHIP AND HUSAK'S VISIT IS LIKELY TO CONTRIBUTE TO SOME MOVEMENT. WE DO NOT, HOWEVER, BELIEVE IT WAS A MAJOR STIMULOUS AND IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN HOW FAR PRAGUE AND BONN CAN MOVE BEYOND THE MALAISE THAT HAS CHARACTERIZED THEIR RELATIONS IN RECENT YEARS.
STOESSEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BONN07124
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780164-0621
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780451/aaaabqvy.tel
Line Count: 184
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 600128ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BONN 6874, 78 BONN 6293
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2951511
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUSAK VISIT TO FRG
TAGS: PEPR, GE, CZ, (HUSAK, GUSTAV)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/600128ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014